



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

KUFER, et al.

Art Unit

1642

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Examiner:

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Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

In response to the Office Action mailed September 30, 2002, in connection with the above-identified application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1 to 27, 33 to 35, 40 and 41, for prosecution in the application. Applicants further elect, with traverse, as functional domains and linkers, the group of T-cell costimulatory ligands and the group of antigen binding regions specific for a tumor associated antigen, as defined in claim 7.

Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of Group III, claims 36 to 39, with the elected claims as there would be no additional burden to examine claims 36 to 39 since they depend from claims 1 to 27, which are the elected claims. As such, a search and examination of elected claims 1 to 27 inherently is a search and examination of claims 36 to 39. Upon granting Applicants request for rejoinder of claims 36 to 39 with the elected invention, Applicants will amend these claims to delete reference to unelected claims 28 and 29. Amended claims 36 to 39 would therefore depend only from elected claims 1 to 27.

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Respectfully submitted,

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